



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING

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Dear Child Care Stakeholder:

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) has adopted a rulemaking order for rules regarding licensed child care. These rules moved the regulations for hearings and background checks from DSHS to the new DEL.

The department had existed in the past as Division of Child Care & Early Learning, a part of DSHS. One function of the department is to perform background checks on applicants for child care licenses and workers in child care. These rules also set up a process for hearings in those instances when an applicant for a child care license is denied the license or denied clearance to work with children. With the creation of the DEL, child care background check and hearing rules in Title 388 WAC became obsolete for the purpose of regulating child care. These new rules are needed to allow the new department to continue the business of performing background checks and conducting hearings.

We have moved the following rules from DSHS to DEL:

- Chapter 388-02 WAC (DSHS Hearing Rules) was re-created as Chapter 170-03 WAC (DEL Hearing Rules).
- Chapter 388-06 WAC (DSHS Background Checks) was re-created as Chapter 170-06 (DEL Background Check Rules).

These rules were effective July 1, 2006, the first date of existence for the new Department of Early Learning. Appropriate wording changes were made to each set of rules to adapt them to the new department.

You will find copies of the CR103, "Rulemaking Order" and copies of the new rules on the policy page of the DEL website: http://www.del.wa.gov/ccel/policy.shtml#rule_postings

In addition, DEL will file a CR101, Preproposal Statement of Inquiry advising the public that DEL intends to adopt Chapter 170-03 WAC and Chapter 170-06 WAC as permanent rules. You will be notified when that CR101 is filed.

Thanks for participating in the DEL rulemaking process!

NOTE: If for any reason you do not wish to be on this mailing list or to receive DEL rulemaking notices, please let me know!

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